

2834

Atty Docket: GE 122353

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Charles E. Baumgartner : Group Art Unit: 2834

Serial No.: 10/065,792 : Examiner:

Filed: November 19, 2003

Title: METHOD FOR MAKING ELECTRICAL CONNECTION
TO ULTRASONIC TRANSDUCER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

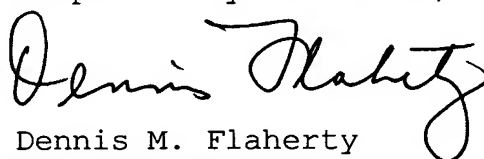
In the Office Action dated October 9, 2003 in the above-referenced patent application, the Examiner has required restriction to one of two inventions pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Examiner has distinguished the following inventions: claims 1-24 (Group I) drawn to an ultrasonic transducer; and claims 25-33 (Group II) drawn to a method of making an electrical connection.

In response to the restriction requirement, the Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, to prosecute claims 1-24 of Group I. In support of the restriction requirement, the Examiner has asserted that the transducer can be manufactured by a materially different process, such as contact bonding. The Applicant disagrees with this assertion. Contact bonding is an adhesive assembly process that utilizes adhesives that are dried to the condition where they display very little adhesive attraction to each other, but still possess considerable cohesive attraction

and strength properties. When two surfaces, for example, are coated with an adhesive and allowed to dry to the point where they no longer display tack, they can be conveniently handled; when the two surfaces are then joined, however, they immediately attract each other and cohere, instantly forming a strong bond. In the case of Applicant's invention a mesh would be sandwiched between the two surfaces coated with dried adhesive. Thus these surfaces would not be in contact and could not cohere in the manner described.

Consequently, Applicant believes that contact bonding would not work and therefore is not a basis for the restriction requirement. Applicant requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

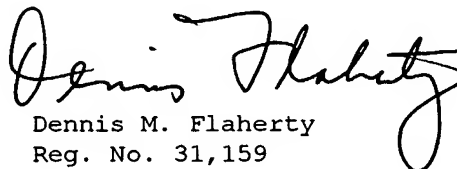


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November 10, 2003
Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.



Dennis M. Flaherty
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November 10, 2003
Date